

*Celebrating the Life  
of  
Louise Briggs*



*Thursday, March 18, 1999  
11:00 a.m.*

*Saint John Missionary Baptist Church  
662 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Richmond, California*

*Pastor Kevin B. Hall  
Officiating*

*A Blessed Day:  
December 31, 1921*



*A Divine Departure:  
March 11, 1999*

*Louise Briggs*

*We will look to the sky for the brightest star and  
know you are there where ever we are. For we truly  
know that you are an  
"Angel."*





*My children,  
When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want not rites in a gloom-filled room  
Why cry for a soul that's set free?*

*Miss me a little, but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that we all once shared.  
Miss me, and let me go.*

*For this is a journey that we all must take  
And each must go alone,  
It's all a part of the Master's plan  
A step on the road to our Heavenly home.*

*Remember,  
Miss Me, and Let Me Go!  
Love  
Mother*

## *Order of Service*

*"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"*

*Mass Choir*

*Processional*

*Scriptural Readings*

*Old Testament: Psalm 23*

*New Testament: Saint John 14:1-6*

*Prayer*

*The Reverend Calvin Miles*

*"Hush, Somebody's Calling My Name"*

*Nadine Gills-Ward*

*Reflections*

*Our Mother: Annie Johnson*

*Our Grandmother: Erika Hall*

*Our Great Grandmother: Tiara Jackson*

*Our Friend and Neighbor: Norma Gibson*

*"May The Work I've Done"*

*Willa Gaye Williams*

*Acknowledgments*

*Ann Lucas*

*Resolutions*

*New Nazarene Baptist Church*

*Golden Poppy Grand Chapter, OES*

*St. John Missionary Baptist Church, Roberta Mitchell*

*"Stand By Me"*

*Juanita Cobon*

*Remarks (3 minutes each)*

*Dr. Charles H. Belcher*

*Pastor, BeeBee Memorial Cathedral  
Oakland, California*

*Dr. Lloyd Farr  
New Bethel Baptist Church  
Rodeo, California*

*"If It Had Not Been For The Lord"  
Mass Choir*

*Remarks (3 minutes each)  
The Reverend Eurin Holland  
Pastor, New Nazarene Baptist Church  
Richmond, California*

*The Reverend Melvin Williams  
St. John Missionary Baptist Church  
Richmond, California*

*The Reverend Ralph W. Emerson  
Pastor, Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church  
Fort Worth, Texas*

*The Reverend Johnny Harris  
Family Member  
Pastor, New Canaan Baptist Church  
Gurdon, Arkansas*

*Dr. Lewis Shephard  
Family Member  
Pastor, New Haven Baptist Church  
Camden, Arkansas*

*Obituary  
Iola Fay Harris*

*"Order My Steps"  
Mass Choir  
Cynthia Harris, Soloist*

*Words of Comfort  
Pastor Kevin B. Hall*

*Recessional*



## *Reflections of Life*

*Louise Briggs was born in Lewisville, Arkansas on December 31, 1921 to Eddie and Rachel Brown. She accepted Christ at the age of thirteen and was baptized by the Reverend Watkin Hale at the Cedar Grove Baptist Church. On December 24, 1939 Louise was united in matrimony to Jerry Briggs; she gained a son, L. J. Briggs. God further blessed this union with seven other children: Geraldine, Annie, Betty, Dolores, Jerry, Jr. (who preceded her in death), Gary and Gayle. Jerry and Louise instilled the love of God in their children's lives. They taught them to put God first in all things and to have love for one another. This philosophy has been carried down through three generations.*

*Louise moved to Richmond, California in 1944, where she united with the North Richmond Baptist Church under the pastorship of the late Reverend F. W. Watkins. After moving to her present residence on 49<sup>th</sup> Street, the family decided to find a church closer to home. In 1952 Louise and her family united with St. John Missionary Baptist Church, under the pastorship of the late Reverend R. L. Johnson. Louise was a faithful member of the Ruth Circle and secretary of her Sunday School Class. Louise remained a faithful member at St. John until her health began to fail.*

*Louise was employed by the University of California Berkeley in the Bacteriology Department. She retired in 1979 to become an active and full time grandmother. In Louise's loving home, there was never a dull moment. Her home became the daily stop for her children,*

*grandchildren, great grandchildren, and their many friends. Because of her sweet spirit, Louise was referred to as "MOTHER" by all.*

*On Thursday morning, March 11, 1999, Gabriel blew his trumpet, and God dispatched His angels to escort Louise to her heavenly home, to abide eternally with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

*To celebrate her homegoing she leaves five daughters; Geraldine Briggs-Johnson of Vallejo, California, Annie Briggs-Johnson of El Cerrito, California, Betty Briggs-Marshall of El Sobrante, California, Dolores Briggs-Rollins of Pinole, California, Gayle Briggs-Chapman of Cleveland, Ohio; two sons, L. J. Briggs of San Diego, California and Gary Briggs of Richmond, California; five sons-in-law, Bobby Johnson, James Johnson, William O. Marshall, Allen Rollins and the Reverend Roscoe Chapman; three daughters-in-law, Earthaleen Briggs, Debra Briggs-Schaffer and Emma Briggs; seventeen grandchildren, twenty-three great grandchildren; one brother, Henry Brown of Texarkana, Arkansas; three sisters-in-law, Emma Brown of Texarkana, Arkansas, Cleo Jinter of Richmond, California and Dorothy Briggs of Dallas, Texas; two dear cousins, Margaret Archie of Oakland, California and Laura Brown of Sacramento, California; two godchildren, Rose Tucker of Pinole, California and Ralph Emerson of Fort Worth, Texas; six special friends, Cora Ward, Leona Welch, Viola Wallace, Emma Miles, Norma Gibson and Helen Clark; a host of relatives and numerous friends.*



*Pall Bearers*  
*Marlon Paden*  
*Erique Tillman*  
*Jonathan Briggs*  
*Aaron Rollins*  
*Garret Payne*  
*Dexter Hall*

*Honorary Pall Bearers*

*Jerrett Briggs*  
*Jeremy Briggs*  
*Adam Rollins*  
*Brandon McBride*  
*Jeffery Wallace*  
*Jermonte Briggs*

*Acknowledgment*

*It is with sincere and deep appreciation that we extend to each of you our heartfelt thanks. Your comfort and support during the illness and homegoing of our loved one has meant so very much. Thank you for the phone calls, flowers, visits, the very nourishing food and most important, your prayers. We realize that, all of these things were done and given with love. We ask your continued prayers for each of us from day to day. We will forever ask that God keep and protect each of you in His warm and tender care. We are forever grateful.*

*Love always,  
The Family*

*Interment*  
*Rolling Hills Memorial Park*  
*Richmond, California*

*Arrangements Entrusted to:*

**STEWART'S**  
*Rose Manor Funeral Home*  
*The Stewart Family: John, Lydia & Kevin*  
*3331 MacDonald Avenue*  
*Richmond, California*  
*510-235-9143*

*Program design:*  
*La Draw Graphics*  
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